

4 September 1981  
MNC-1018

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Nicosia Bureau--August 1981

## I. GENERAL

Although Nicosia did not set a new record for filed wordage in August as it had done in four of the past five months, neither did its wordage taper off significantly. The bureau filed 692,000 words in August, the second highest figure--behind last month's record of 759,000--since the bureau was reopened in Nicosia in 1975. The bureau's filed wordage for 1981 has now surpassed the yearend total for 1980 by over 400,000 words.

The bureau stumbled into primary coverage of Libya's Tripoli Radio morning casts with the proverbial "bang" on 19 August when the bureau instituted open watch on the radio, which had heretofore constituted a gap in coverage, to monitor reaction to a dogfight between jets on maneuvers with the 6th Fleet in the Gulf of Sidra and Libyan jets. The bureau's Egyptian file was also active during the month with coverage of President as-Sadat's 3-10 August visit to Great Britain and the United States and his 25-26 August summit conference in Egypt with Israeli Prime Minister Begin. In addition, Greek-language coverage remained high with election campaign coverage of Greece and coverage of disappointment expressed by Cypriot leaders with the contents of the long-awaited new Turkish Cypriot side proposals put forth at the 5 August intercommunal talks session. ✓

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Editorial/Monitorial

The bureau instituted open-speaker watch on Tripoli Domestic Service from 0415 GMT to approximately 1030 GMT as of 19 August as a result of the U.S.-Libyan Gulf of Sidra jet downing incident of that day and formally added the radio's 0500, 0800 and 1000 GMT newscasts to Nicosia's primary coverage as of 24 August. On 27 August the bureau began filing processing FYI's on the 0500 GMT cast to London and BBC to help prevent duplicate processing.

### B. Lateral/Special Services

1. On 19 and 25 August the bureau received complaints from the Cypriot Foreign Ministry about identifications without qualification in FBIS titles, subslugs and editorial notes of the positions of leaders from the northern Cypriot occupied zone. The bureau has apprised Headquarters and Tel Aviv, which also covers Turkish sources, of the complaints and instituted stricter controls over the formatting of material being forwarded to the Cypriot Foreign Ministry.

2. In recognition of the approximately 70,000 words the bureau processed specifically for the U.S. Embassy in Athens during July, the bureau on 10 August received a message of "appreciation" for the "outstanding support" which has "proven extremely useful" to the Embassy and Washington consumers. The bureau subsequently has received requests from the Embassy to process election-related material from 9 and 30 August newspapers.

3. On 1 August the U.S. Embassy in Beirut requested the bureau cover Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis' Army Day speech that day. Luckily, the bureau was already covering the speech, as the Embassy cable arrived after the broadcast had begun. In response to the Embassy request, a series of FYI's and an editorial report on the ceremony as well as the text of the speech were filed.

4. On 10 August the bureau refiled a 5-take MAY interview with Egyptian President as-Sadat to the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum at the request of the Embassy in Cairo.

5. During the 1-28 August period the bureau covered the 1600-1630 and 1900-1930 GMT Moscow Greek casts at the request of BBC, whose Greek monitor was on leave.

6. On 19 and 24 August the bureau provided phonepatches to BBC of Tehran Radio broadcasts.

7. Gulf Bureau took over coverage of our Persian-language casts during our monitor's 11-15 August leave.

8. The first of the foreign-based Iranian Persian-language publications to which the bureau has entered subscriptions began arriving on 6 August. All publications received are being pouched to Headquarters.

9. With AG's concurrence, the bureau ceased filing of sample FYI's on the Friday prayers broadcast by Cairo Domestic Service after the 21 August FYI.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Regional Engineer [ ] and his wife, Bonnie, the STAT bureau secretary, departed on a stateside R&R on 17 August. Both are expected to return to duty on 15 September.

B. Editor [ ] was promoted to GS-11 effective 9 August. STAT

### IV. VISITS

AG Chief Analyst [ ] visited the bureau on TDY 23-27 August. STAT

[ ] STAT  
Nicosia Bureau Chief